

The Alexandria Gazette

FRIDAY EVENING, NOV. 14.

A letter from New York, in the Baltimore American, says: "The government never made a more decided mistake than in clothing Chief of Police Kennedy, for a whole month with the powers of provost marshal of New York. A case just transpired has renewed the outcry against his arrests. Some two months ago he arrested Mrs. Brinsmade, a young married woman, who came from New Orleans with a pass from Gen. Butler. To the application of her friends, Kennedy replied that she would be sent back to New Orleans. They supposed that this had been done, and only recently found out that she was still a prisoner in one of the police station-houses. The matter was referred to the Provost Marshal General, Simon Draper, who, on investigation, found out that she was arrested without the authority of any one in Washington; that the fact of her arrest was never reported by Mr. Kennedy to any department of the government; that no charges had ever been filed, and that even her name was unknown at the War Department.—Mr. Draper at once ordered her release, and it is supposed that Kennedy will be indicted by the Grand Jury." The charges against Mrs. B. were singing secession songs, and sympathy with the South, &c. The N. Y. World contains most scathing attacks upon Kennedy for his course in this affair, and calls upon the Grand Jury to indict him.

There are no less than four first-class steamboats now plying between Alexandria and Washington, as follows: Thomas Collyer, Wm. W. Frazier, Young America and Wilson Small, all commanded by polite and attentive captains. Trips are made from each point very regularly every hour, the first boat leaving Alexandria at 7 A. M., and the last Washington at 5 P. M. There is no lack of accommodation and comfort on these boats, and our citizens may congratulate themselves upon having this state of things in this particular.

The Washington Republican complains of the defective state of the landlord and tenant law in Washington, and says, "at present, the 'reciprocity' is altogether on the tenant's side, and the landlord has often to whistle for both rent and house. Hundreds of houses in this city, at this present writing, are held by persons who pay not a dime of rent, and declare that they never will pay, yet defy the lawful owner to even step his foot on his property, on pain of instant arrest!"

The Washington Republican says that "the Southern aristocracy must be destroyed—that the rebellious aristocrats must be visited with utter ruin, stripped of their estates, and deprived of consideration and power—and a new social system built up in the South."

The Northern papers say that President Lincoln has positively prohibited the execution of the three hundred Indians recently captured and found guilty in Minnesota.

The Wheeling Intelligencer says that the prospects for the organization and recognition of the new State of West Virginia are favorable.

We receive our Washington exchange papers, by mail, very irregularly.

GENERAL NEWS.

A meeting of the Democracy was held in New York on Monday evening. John Van Buren made a speech favoring the declaration of an armistice to enable the people of the South to go home and elect Representatives to Congress before the first of January, so as to avoid the coming proclamation of freedom to their slaves. He was also in favor of a Convention to amend the Constitution, so as to admit of the restoration of the old Union.—Fernando Wood and James Brooks made speeches in favor of interposing the power of the State to prevent the encroachments of alleged usurpations by the General Government.

A Vicksburg paper states that an extensive society has been discovered in Northern Texas, having for its object resistance to the Confederate conscription act and co-operation with the Federal army.

It is stated that orders have been issued at Washington for the immediate construction of adequate works of defence in New York harbor.

The prize steamer Scotia arrived at New York yesterday from Port Royal.

The story of the Washington correspondents that Genl. Fremont has been ordered to Washington to assume an important command, is contradicted. He goes there on leave of absence solicited by himself.

There have been no resignations of officers of the Army of the Potomac since the recent change of commanders, as reported.

By a letter to Hon. Wm. D. Sewall, of Bath, written on board the steamship City of Washington, off Cape Race, October 21, it appears that the Alabama, or "290," was seen from that steamer on the previous day, cruising in the track of outward bound ships.

The parties arrested in New York, to whom reference was made yesterday, are not charged, as was then stated, with exacting an usurious discount on Government claims, but with a more serious offence, that of perpetrating numerous frauds upon the U. S. Treasury.

The steamer Champion, with the California mails and passengers and \$717,000 in treasure, arrived at New York yesterday. Some excitement had been occasioned by the discovery of valuable silver mines in Mariposa county. The war in New Grenada has come to an end.

A new diet table has been prepared for the use of the U. S. hospitals. By this new system a regular printed scale has been established, by which the exact daily quantity of each kind of food necessary for each individual is set forth, in avordupois weight, and varying to suit all patients, from the convalescent to the very sick and feeble.

A letter dated Carracas, October 9th, says: "An iron clad war steamer, bearing the Confederate flag, and supposed to be the Oveto, has been cruising off Cardenas for two or three weeks past, and is known to have made several prizes. Two others of their cruizers have also been seen hovering about the Bahamas."

Advices now indicate that the Army of the Potomac now stands in such attitude towards the Confederate army under Gen. Lee, as that, as soon as any further forward movement is made, an important collision of arms may ensue.

The Petersburg Express of the 10th inst. says that salt is selling there at from 55 to 65 cents per pound.

Gov. Pierpoint is about negotiating an exchange for James Trout, a member of the Wheeling House of Delegates, from Hampshire county, who was captured and carried off by the late Sam High.

The case of Mrs. Brinsmade, in New York, makes a profound impression upon the public mind. The call is universal for the Governor and Police Commissioners to investigate, and for the Grand Jury to indict.

Complaints of the captain of the steamer Gladiator that Commodore Wilkes had "blockaded" Bermuda, do not appear to be regarded as likely to lead to special difficulty, though two additional war steamers have been sent out.

There are now 180 state prisoners and 75 prisoners of war in the Old Capitol prison. An exchange will soon take place.

Mr. Baker, chief Government detective, has recently ordered the arrest of a couple of forage clerks in Assistant Quartermaster Dana's office. They have been committed to the Old Capitol. They are charged with being in collusion with certain contractors.

At the present time there are about 14,500 sick and wounded soldiers in the various hospitals in Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria and neighborhood.

Charles Howard, Esq., former President of the Board of Police Commissioners in Baltimore, arrived home yesterday from Fort Warren, having been released owing to the extreme illness of a member of his family.

The New York World recommends the border free States which have Democratic Legislatures, to pass laws forbidding the immigration of negroes into their Commonwealths.

Gen. Wadsworth will be assigned to an important command in the course of a day or two. Gen. McDowell is spoken of as his successor in Washington.

Lord Lyons has arrived in Washington, and had a friendly interview with President Lincoln and Secretary Seward.

A row occurred among some soldiers, in Washington, on Wednesday night, in which three of them were severely wounded.

Gen. Halleck, and Gen. Meigs, visited the Potomac Army, on Wednesday, and returned yesterday.

The Petersburg Express, of November 10, has the following:—"The ghost of recognition of the Southern Confederacy by France and England, after having been solemnly evoked for the tenth time, has again been dismissed to the shades below, where we hope it will remain for the rest of the war. We are tired of this freakish re-appearance of this phantom, and wish never to see it again paraded before the public eye."

In case the Speaker of the next House, should be an Anti-Administration man, the result will be in accordance with the general rule, for it is a curious fact that for thirty-eight years the last House of Representatives during each Administration has been controlled by political opponents of the then President.

The Boston Traveller of Tuesday says:—"We understand that it has been decided that a portion at least of Gen. Banks' expedition shall sail from Boston. The orders to several Massachusetts regiments to proceed to New York, preparatory to their final departure, have been countermanded. How soon the regiments will leave is not yet known."